



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/605,598	10/10/2003	Johan Hulten	00173.0043.PCUS00	2597
28694	7590	09/05/2006	EXAMINER	
NOVAK DRUCE & QUIGG, LLP 1300 EYE STREET NW 400 EAST TOWER WASHINGTON, DC 20005			SY, MARIANO ONG	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3683	

DATE MAILED: 09/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/605,598

Applicant(s)

HULTEN ET AL.

Examiner

Mariano Sy

Art Unit

3683

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 February 2006:
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 5-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 5-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on February 6, 2006 has been entered.

2. Claims 1, 2, and 9 objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 1, line 3 "caliper (32)" should be --caliper (30)--,

Claim 1, line 6 "the ratio B/R" should be --a ratio B/R--,

Claim 2, line 3 "70mm" should be --70 mm--,

Claim 9, line 4 "rotor (32)" should be --rotor (8)--,

Claim 9, line 5 "the ratio B/R" should be --a ratio B/R--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Art Unit: 3683

4. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

5. Claims 1, 2, and 5-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daghigh et al. (US 5,568,846) in view of Tasker et al. (US 5,855,416) and in view of Okayama et al. (US 6,620,860) or Wirth (DE 4133593) or Kappich (DE 19507102).

The claims are directed to essentially a ratio between a radius of a brake rotor and a radial extent of a brake lining for a disk brake.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the disk brake of Daghigh et al. for heavy vehicles having an axle pressure between 6 to 14 tons, as taught by Tasker et al. (see col. 5, line 60 to col. 6, line 7), in that the particular load or pressure at the axles is typical for heavy vehicle and is based upon the load that the artisan intends to carry. As to the material of the brake rotor being "cast iron alloy", it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to select the material as taught by Okayama et al. (see col. 1, lines 14-15), since it has been held to be within

the general skill in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use as a matter of obvious design choice. In re Leshin, 125 USPQ 416.

As for the particular recognition by Applicants that correlating a ratio between the brake lining extent and the radius of the brake rotor is significant, each one of the references to Okayama et al. (fig. 3 and col. 6, lines 13-25 wherein the ratio is 0.30), Wirth and Kappich recognizes the relationship and its significance. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Dagb et al. by routine experimentation to optimize the ratio of B/R as per Okayama et al., Wirth and Kappich, the brake torque, modulus of elasticity and any variety of parameters typically known, calculated or estimated by a brake artisan to arrive at the most suitable disc brake for the environment and application at hand with reduced vibration.

See MPEP 2144.05 under "Optimization". Also see MPEP 2144.04 under "Changes in Size/Proportion".

The instant specification describes a series of tests and observations but fails to present any statement or evidence that the claimed selections are critical.

6. Applicants' arguments in the remarks have been considered but not convincing based on the above reasons. The claims are directed to a disk brake wherein the ratio B/R between the radial extent B of lining 32 and radius R of rotor 8 is less than 0.38. Okayama et al. disclosed in fig. 3 and col. 6, lines 13-25 wherein the ratio is 0.30 (rotor diameter is 60 and width of brake lining is 10). As for the variety of parameters such as modulus of elasticity and braking torque are based on the material used. As stated

Art Unit: 3683

above, one of ordinary skill in the art through routine experimentation would select any variety of ratios based upon material used with known modulus of elasticity for the type and size of rotor, brake lining, etc., in order to arrive at the optimum ratio.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mariano Sy whose telephone number is 571-272-7126. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. from 8:30 A.M. to 2:30 P.M.

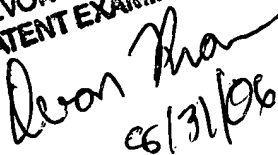
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James McClellan, can be reached on 571-272-6786. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

 M. Sy

August 24, 2006

DEVON C. KRAMER
PATENT EXAMINER


06/31/06